

Applicant: Roger E. Weiss
For: Method for Accurate and Secure Voting

- 1 1. A method for secure, electronic, distributed voting using existing automated teller
2 machines (ATMs), comprising:
 - 3 issuing each voter a voter identification that can be input into an ATM;
 - 4 enabling the ATMs to receive the voter identifications;
 - 5 in response to the receipt of a voter identification, displaying at the ATM information
6 relating to the vote to be cast;
 - 7 allowing the user to cast votes using one or more ATM functions;
 - 8 identifying a particular ATM function as an indication of finalization of the vote; and
 - 9 in response, automatically tallying the finalized vote.
- 1 2. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, wherein the voter
2 identification comprises an access card and a personal identification number (PIN).
- 1 3. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, wherein the voter
2 identification encodes at least the voter's voting district.
- 1 4. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 3, wherein the voter
2 identification also encodes the voter's name.
- 1 5. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 4, wherein the voter
2 identification also encodes the voter's address.
- 1 6. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 5, wherein the voter
2 identification also encodes the voter's party affiliation.
- 1 7. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, wherein the information
2 relating to the vote to be cast comprises candidate names.

1 8. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, wherein the information
2 relating to the vote to be cast comprises issues to be voted upon.

1 9. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, wherein the ATM
2 function indicating vote finalization is a push of the "accept" key.

1 10. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, further comprising
2 displaying or printing voting selections before their finalization.

1 11. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 10, wherein voting
2 selections are printed using the ATM receipt printer.

1 12. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, wherein allowing the
2 user to cast votes using ATM functions includes providing user control over scrolling through
3 ATM display screens.

1 13. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, further comprising
2 disabling further use of the access card to access voting information, upon the tallying of the
3 finalized vote.

1 14. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, further comprising
2 establishing an account for each candidate, and wherein automatically tallying the finalized vote
3 comprises depositing into the account each finalized vote for the candidate.

1 15. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 1, further comprising
2 allowing the user to enter the name of a write-in candidate.

1 16. The secure, electronic, distributed voting method of claim 15, wherein allowing the
2 user to enter the name of a write-in candidate comprises enabling use of ATM functions to enter
3 letters of the alphabet.

1 17. A method for secure, electronic, distributed voting using existing automated teller
2 machines (ATMs), comprising:
3 issuing each voter a unique voter identification that can be input into an ATM,
4 wherein the voter identification encodes at least the voter's name and voting district;
5 enabling the ATMs to accept the voter identifications;
6 in response to the receipt of a voter identification, displaying at the ATM information
7 relating to the vote to be cast, wherein the information relating to the vote to be cast comprises at
8 least candidate names;
9 allowing the user to cast votes using one or more ATM functions;
10 displaying or printing voting selections before their finalization;
11 identifying a particular ATM function as an indication of finalization of the vote;
12 in response, automatically tallying the finalized vote; and
13 in response, disabling further use of the voter identification to access voting
14 information.

1 18. A method for secure, electronic, distributed voting using existing automated teller
2 machines (ATMs), comprising:
3 issuing each voter an access card that can be read by an ATM, and a personal
4 identification number (PIN), wherein the access card encodes at least the voter's name and
5 voting district;
6 enabling the ATMs to read access cards and accept PINs;
7 in response to the reading of an access card and appropriate PIN entry, displaying at
8 the ATM information relating to the vote to be cast, wherein the information relating to the vote
9 to be cast comprises at least candidate names;
10 allowing the user to cast votes using one or more ATM functions;
11 allowing the user to enter the name of a write-in candidate;
12 establishing an account for each candidate;
13 identifying a particular ATM function as an indication of finalization of the vote;
14 automatically depositing into the account each finalized vote for the candidate; and
15 in response, disabling further use of the access card to access voting information.